

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

An amendment of a formal nature has been made to the specification and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

As requested, Figure 2 has been provided with a label --Prior Art--. In addition, the label Q has been added to Figure 1 to reference the auxiliary switch.

Claim 1 has been amended to correct an obvious typographical error. This amendment was not necessitated by any rejection and is not made for any reasons relating to patentability.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Boylan *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,703). Applicants traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 describes a synchronous rectifier circuit in which an auxiliary switch is connected to the other end of the auxiliary winding via a resistor connected to a base. The auxiliary switch is also connected to one end of the secondary winding and to one end of the auxiliary winding via a collector. An example, non-limiting implementation of this arrangement is shown in Figure 1 of the subject patent application with reference to auxiliary switch Q, auxiliary winding T3, resistor R, and secondary winding T2.

In Boylan *et al.*, even assuming for the sake of argument that nominal auxiliary switch Q10 in Figure 11 is viewed as being connected to the other end of auxiliary winding ns1 (the lower end of ns1 in Figure 11 according to the office action) via a resistor connected to a base, Q10 is not, for example, connected to the "one end" of the secondary winding ns2 (lower end of ns2 in Figure 11) or to the "one end" of the auxiliary winding ns1 (upper end of ns1 in Figure 11). Consequently, Boylan *et al.* does not anticipate the subject matter of claim 1 or of claim 2 which depends therefrom. *See, e.g., Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) ("A claim is anticipated only if each and every

element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.").

New claims 3-5 have been added. The subject matter of these claims is fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter is added.


Claim 3 is directed to a rectifier circuit, comprising a transformer including a primary winding, a second winding, and an auxiliary winding having a first end coupled to a first end of the secondary winding, wherein the secondary winding side of the transformer is insulated from the primary winding side; a diode having an anode coupled to a second end of the auxiliary winding; an auxiliary switch having a control terminal coupled to the second end of the auxiliary winding via a resistor and a first switch terminal coupled to the first end of the secondary winding and to the first end of the auxiliary winding; and a rectifier switch having a gate coupled to a cathode of the diode and to a second switch terminal of the auxiliary switch, and a drain coupled to a second end of the secondary winding. Applicant respectfully submit that Boylan *et al.* does not disclose a rectifier circuit comprising, for example, an auxiliary switch arranged as claimed. Consequently, claim 3 and its dependent claims 4 and 5 are believed to be allowable over Boylan *et al.*

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Atsuhiro TOBITA
Serial No. 10/615,783
Response to Office Action dated October 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Michael J. Shea
Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:mjs
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

Atsuhiko TOBITA
Serial No. 10/615,783
Response to Office Action dated October 15, 2004

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 1 and 2. This sheet, which includes Figures 1 and 2, replaces the original sheet including Figures 1 and 2. In Figure 1, a reference element "Q" and a lead line to the auxiliary switch has been added. The legend --Prior Art-- has been added to Figure 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes



FIG. 1

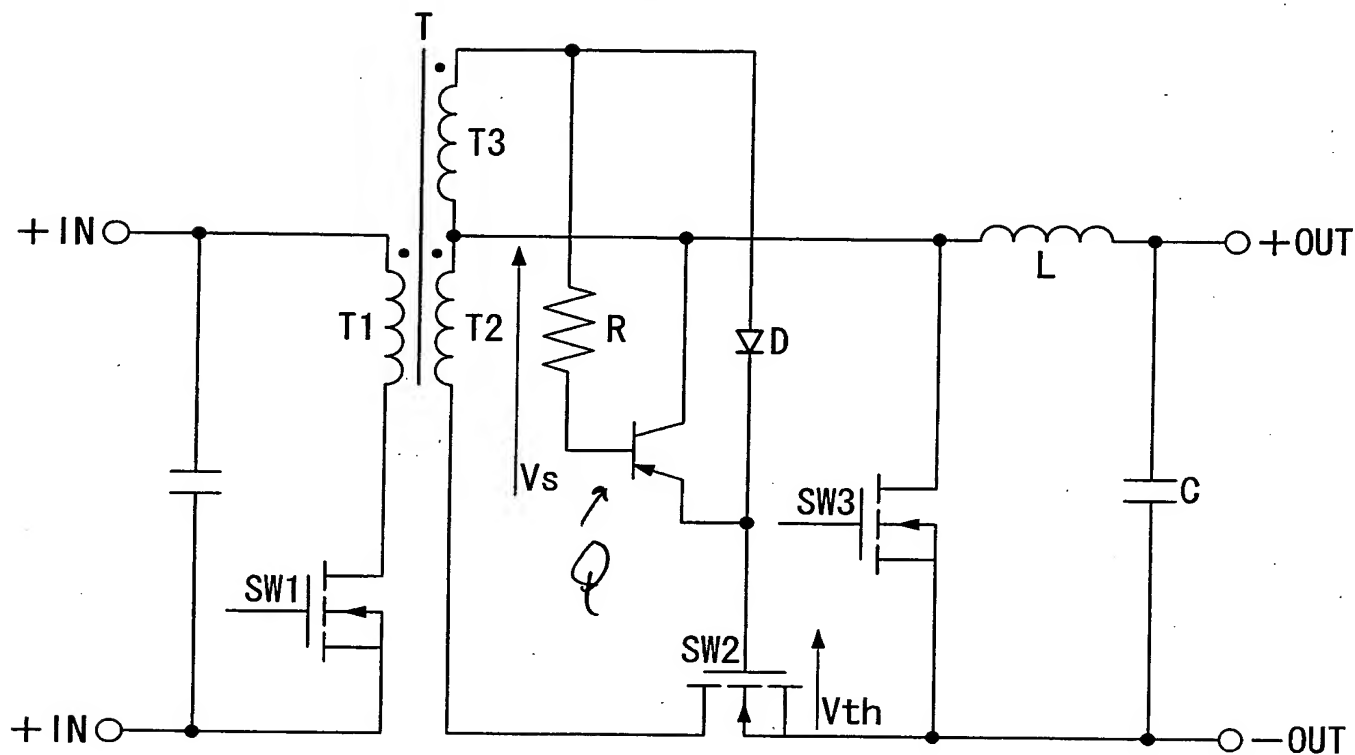


FIG. 2 PRIOR ART

